

DECLARATION
Serial No. 09/925,850
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**IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

PATENT APPLICATION

Applicant: Sining Mao et al.

Case: 12175-003001/STL9812.00

Serial No.: 09/925,850

Filed: August 9, 2001

Examiner: Ometz, David L.

Group Art Unit: 2653

Conf. No.: 3814

**Title: HIGH SENSITIVITY TUNNELING GMR SENSORS WITH SYNTHETIC
ANTIFEEROMAGNET FREE LAYER**

**Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**DECLARATION OF SINING MAO, JANUSZ J. NOWAK, ERIC S. LINVILLE
AND JIAN CHEN UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.131**

We, Sining Mao, Janusz J. Nowak, Eric S. Linville and Jian Chen, declare as follows:

1. We are the inventors of the above-captioned patent application.
2. The invention which forms the subject matter of the above-captioned patent application was conceived on or before March 30, 2000, and was diligently reduced to practice thereafter.
3. Exhibit A is enclosed herewith in support of this declaration that we conceived the invention in this country on or before March 30, 2000.

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4. Exhibit A is a copy of Seagate Employee Invention Disclosure Form, kept in the normal course of business, that states that the invention was conceived on or before March 30, 2000.

5. Exhibit A includes notes disclosing the concept of a SAF layer with a bias layer and a pinned layer.

6. Exhibit A is offered as supporting evidence that the present invention, as recited in independent claims 1 and 9 was conceived on or before the March 30, 2000 earliest effective filing date of United States Patent No. 6,483,675.

We further declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

3/24/2004
Date

3/22/2004
Date

3/24/2004
Date

3/19/2004
Date

[Signature]
SINING MAO

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JANUSZ J. NOWAK

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